

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1 and 2 are pending in the present application. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of a securement element having a transverse axis wherein the securement is asymmetric relative to the transverse axis of said securement element. Independent claim 1 has also been amended to include the features of a first incomplete image element is printed on one of the securement elements, the second incomplete image element is printed on the other securement element and the third incomplete image element is printed on said first waist region of the article.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable for reasons of record in the Office Action. Applicants submit that independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of a securement element having a transverse axis wherein the securement is asymmetric relative to the transverse axis of said securement element. Independent claim 1 has also been amended to include the features of a first incomplete image element is printed on one of the securement elements, the second incomplete image element is printed on the other securement element and the third incomplete image element is printed on said first waist region of the article.

Applicants submit that Pozniak does not teach or even remotely suggest securement elements that are asymmetric relative to the securement element transverse axis. In contrast, Pozniak teaches securement elements that are symmetrical relative to the transverse axis of the

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securement element. It is therefore Applicants' position that the amendment overcomes the rejection..

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

This response represents an earnest effort to place the present application in proper form and to distinguish the invention as claimed from the applied reference(s). In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendment(s) presented herein, reconsideration of this application, and allowance of the pending claim(s) are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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